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target sequence if present in said sample and said reference sequence;

- (iii) denaturing the amplification product or products produced by step (ii);
- (iv) subjecting said denatured amplification product or products of step (iii) to hybridization conditions separately and sequentially with probes homologous to said target sequence and to said reference sequence, each of said probes being removed from a sequence with which it is hybridized prior to the separate and sequential subjection of said amplification products to hybridization with another of said probes;
- (v) determining whether said amplified target and reference sequences are hybridized with said probes homologous therewith, false negative data being indicated by failure of said probes to hybridize either to the sample or to the reference sequence and false positive data being indicated by hybridization of the target sequence probe and by the absence of hybridization of the reference sequence probe.

[Please rewrite claim 19 as follows:]

19. (Amended) A process as defined by claim 18 in which the reference nucleotide sequence utilized in step (ii) is

(i) a sequence present in the T-cell receptor [expressed by] expression product of cells [affected] infected by the virus containing said viral RNA;

(ii) a preselected RNA sequence present in substantially all of the cells of said sample,

(iii) a sequence including but having substantially more nucleotides than said target sequence [and constructed by a multi-base insertion into a site in said viral RNA preselected with respect to said target sequence]; or

(iv) a beta actin sequence.

[Please rewrite claim 20 as follows:]

20. (Amended) A process as defined by claim 18 in which said target viral sequence is located within the 3' ORF region of HIV-1 and in which [the] said reference sequence utilized in step (ii) is located in the constant region of the beta chain or the T-cell receptor expressed by T-4 lymphocytes infected [T-cells affected] by HIV-1.

Cancel claims 26-30.

Add the following new claims 31-33:

--31. A process as defined by claim 18 wherein a predetermined quantity of said reference sequence is used in step (ii)(b) and the probes utilized in step (iv) are labelled.

32. A process as defined by claim 31 in which the amount of signal obtained from the hybridized target sequence is compared with the amount of signal obtained from the hybridized predetermined quantity of said reference sequence.

33. A process as defined by claim 31 in which said probes utilized in step (iv) are labelled with an isotope or a ~~fluorescent~~ ^{fluoro}phore.--

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

After the title, page 1, insert:

--This invention was made with government support under Grant Nos. U01 CA34991 and P01 CA30206 awarded by the National Institutes of Health. The government has certain rights in the invention.--